

FinPro Member Update – Edition 8, 2026

President's Message

Hi everyone,

It's great to be back with another FinPro update. Firstly, I would like to congratulate Paul Hamer MP on his recent appointment as Minister for Local Government. We have appreciated the relationship built with predecessor, Cr Nick Staikos, and look forward to working with Paul.

A big one this month is the continued development of the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF). Pleasingly, we've seen further movement from the State in recognising the role councils play in administering the levy, including additional funding support to help offset the collection and administration burden. Whilst we didn't receive the full ask, after extensive advocacy and workings, this is a positive step and reflects the strength of sector advocacy through groups like FinPro, MAV and the RMA.

We're also continuing to navigate the ongoing impacts of fuel price volatility. As highlighted in this edition, global uncertainty is still flowing through to higher and more unpredictable fuel costs, which is having a real impact on council operations. From fleet and waste services through to contractor pricing. The upcoming webinar on contracts under pressure is a great example of how we're sharing insights and practical approaches across the sector.

On a more positive note, it's fantastic to see the announcement of our 2026 FinPro Leadership Program participants. Congratulations to everyone selected, it's a great program and an important investment in the future capability of our sector. I'm looking forward to seeing the impact this group will have over the coming years.

We've also got a strong few months ahead in terms of professional development. Registrations are now open for our Professional Development Day in June, and there are still some great webinar opportunities coming up.

Planning is also well underway for our 2026 Annual Conference in Geelong. This year's theme, *Trust & Technology: The Future of Finance*, really reflects where the sector is heading, and we're excited to have Adam Spencer joining us as a keynote speaker.

More broadly, it's always encouraging to see the innovation happening across local government, including through initiatives like the MAVlab Innovation Awards. I'd strongly encourage you to consider nominating, there's some great work happening in finance and business operations that deserves to be recognised.

Finally, welcome to our new members, and thank you as always to our Executive Committee, partners and members for your ongoing engagement and support.

Warm regards,

Tony Rocca

President, FinPro

Director Corporate, Maroondah City Council

In this issue:

President's Message

New Minister for Local Government

FinPro Leadership Program 2026

FinPro Professional Development Day – 19 June 2026

Registrations closing soon: Webinar – Superannuation Update

FinPro Webinar: Fuelling Business Volatility – Contracts under pressure

Keynote Speaker Announcement: FinPro Conference 2026

MAVlab Innovation Awards

Job Opportunities

Membership Announcements

TCV Loan Rates as at 15 April 2026

FinPro Executive Team 2026

FinPro Contact Details

New Minister for Local Government

As of April 15, 2026, Paul Hamer has been appointed as the new Minister for Local Government in Victoria as part of a reshuffled cabinet announced by Premier Jacinta Allan. He takes over the portfolio alongside Youth Justice and Corrections.

We thank Cr Nick Staikos for all his support over the past two years and wish him all the best in his new portfolios as Minister for Housing and Building and the Minister for the Suburban Rail Loop.



FinPro Leadership Program 2026



Congratulations to the 2026 Leadership Program recipients!

- Kimberly Lawson, Financial Accountant, Alpine Shire Council
- Romi Fernando, Coordinator Financial Accounting Services, Baw Baw Shire Council

- Chamila Cooray, Team Leader Financial Accounting, Cardinia Shire Council
- Jon Davidson, Management Accountant, City of Greater Bendigo
- Danielle Alexis Lao, Senior Corporate Finance Analyst, City of Melbourne
- Natasha Bilyk, Coordinator Accounting & Development, City of Whittlesea
- Darcy Lambert, Management Accountant, Colac Otway Shire
- Shaye Wilson, Coordinator Property Revenue and Valuation Services, Maroondah City Council
- Cassie-Anne Norris, Asset Accountant, Melton City Council
- Amelie (Wenting) Chen, Senior Accountant, Murrindindi Shire Council
- Laura Liu, Senior Finance Analyst, Wyndham City Council
- Chantelle McIntosh, Finance Systems Business Partner, Yarra Ranges Council

This program runs from Sunday, 10 – Wednesday 13 May 2026 at Maroondah City Council and has been developed to cover the specialist skills and knowledge councils require of finance managers in today’s world. It will be delivered by people who work within the sector and who have a broad range of skills, knowledge, and experience. Participants will work with industry leaders to gain knowledge as well as practical experience.

FinPro Professional Development Day – 19 June 2026

Registrations are now open for the FinPro Professional Development Day, to be held on Friday, 19 June 2026 at Clarendon Auditorium, MCEC.

A preliminary program will be released soon; however, we are pleased to announce our first confirmed speaker at the PD Day is a crowd favourite!



Phin Ziebell

Phin Ziebell is TCV’s Head of Research, providing TCV clients with the latest financial market data, interest rate forecasts and economic analysis. Prior to joining TCV, Phin spent 9 years in the economics team at NAB, analysing trends the macroeconomy, consumer spending, infrastructure, energy and agriculture, as well as client, investor and media presentations. He was also previously an economist at Victorian DTF and DPI.

Investment: (includes seminar, morning tea, lunch and networking event from 3.00pm – 4.00pm)

Registration fees

- Council member registration: \$187
- Corporate member registration: \$242
- Non-member registration: \$350

[Register now](#)

Registrations closing soon: Webinar – Superannuation Update

Date: Thursday, 23 April 2026

Time: 12.30pm - 1.30pm

Led by Lindy Richardson, Partner, Meredith Kennedy, Special Counsel and Daniel Hui, Senior Associate at Maddocks. This webinar will provide general updates on legal requirements on superannuation and the implications of recent changes.

This webinar will cover:

- The upcoming legal requirement to pay employees' superannuation at the same time as salary and wages
- The classification of independent contractors as employees for superannuation purposes
- Wage theft laws – this offence applies to all employers who intentionally engage in conduct that results in the underpayment of wages or entitlements to employees
- Introduction in the National Employment Standards of an obligation to make superannuation contributions
- Superannuation for Councillors

[Register now](#)

For legal advice specific to your council, we encourage you to reach out to the team at Maddocks directly after the webinar.

FinPro Webinar: Fuelling Business Volatility – Contracts under pressure

Date: Thursday, 30 April 2026

Time: 12.30pm - 1.30pm

This webinar will cover:

- An economic update from Luci Ellis, Chief Economist, Westpac
- Followed by a discussion on how the teams at the City of Casey, City of Monash and the City of Melbourne are managing contracts and rising costs.

Speakers:

- Luci Ellis, Chief Economist, Westpac
- Melissa Baker, CFO, City of Casey
- Jason Farrugia, Manager Strategic Procurement, City of Monash
- Darren Fitt, Procurement Governance & Operations Manager, City of Melbourne

[Register now](#)

Keynote Speaker Announcement: FinPro Conference 2026



The FinPro Annual Conference, the flagship event of our calendar, is scheduled from the afternoon of Wednesday, 28 October to lunchtime on Friday, 30 October 2026. The conference theme is, “Trust & Technology: The Future of Finance” and the program will reflect this with presentations on AI, governance, communication and technical updates.

This year’s event will be a bit different to the usual conference offering.

1. We can have a lot more people attend! We have space for around 350 delegates and more accommodation on offer than we’ve ever had, with rooms reserved at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Geelong (adjoining Nyaal Banyul Convention Centre) and Novotel Geelong.
2. Geelong Railway Station is 600 metres away, so public transport is a great option to get there!
3. Single day registrations and conference registration only options will be available this year for those that would rather sleep at home.
4. Our first keynote speaker for the conference program is self-proclaimed numbers nerd, Adam Spencer!



Adam Spencer

Adam has hosted award-winning breakfast radio shows in Australia’s toughest markets and live current affairs TV. He has won improvised Theatre Competitions and once interviewed John Travolta in front of 75,000 people. At the FinPro Conference this year, Adam will be hosting a panel discussion with three CEOs from Councils around Victoria discussing AI, the impact its having and what is on the horizon in local government. Adam will also be closing the conference with a keynote address. This is your chance to laugh and learn with one of Australia’s most dynamic and engaging minds!

Interested in receiving a weekly dose of glorious geekiness? Adam's newsletter gives a nerd's eye view of the latest in AI, innovation and tech. Get it free and direct to your inbox by subscribing [here](#).

Registration will open for the conference in early June. For our corporate partners, you can expect to hear about sponsorship opportunities shortly.

Any questions? Please reach out to Lucy Scorer via email executiveofficer@finpro.org.au or by phone: 03 9631 2727.

MAVlab Innovation Awards

Celebrating innovative projects and people in Victorian local government.

Nominations for the MAVlab Innovation Awards will open on 22 April.

In 2025, this new sector program earned incredible engagement across the local government sector. Almost half of all VIC councils nominated across 16 unique and pertinent categories, leading to the launch of a first-of-its-kind sector resource, the [MAVlab Innovation Case Study Library](#) with 49 case studies detailing brave and impactful work happening all over Victoria by our councils.

2026 is your opportunity to have your incredible work join this resource!

We would like to encourage our members to consider applying for:

The Dollars and Sense Award for Impactful and Innovative Business Operations

Supported by [SenSen Networks](#)

In recognition of innovation in council procurement, finance and business systems that deliver greater value for money, revenue generation, strengthen community and local industry outcomes, and improve financial sustainability.

Please [visit the website](#) for more information.

Job Opportunities

- [Payroll Team Leader](#), Surf Coast Shire - Applications close on Sunday, 19 April 2026
 - [Management Accounting Coordinator](#), Baw Baw Shire Council - Applications close on Sunday, 26 April 2026
 - [Finance Officer](#), Mount Alexander Shire - Applications close on Monday, 27 April 2026
 - [Treasurer](#), Mornington Peninsula Women's Shelter – Volunteer opportunity
-

Membership Announcements

We are so pleased to welcome our new members since the last issue of the newsletter.

- Kate Prewett, Contracts and Procurement Coordinator, Campaspe Shire Council
- Tam Welch, Payroll Lead, Nillumbik Shire Council
- Lacey Thomson, Development Contribution Finance Specialist, Greater Shepparton City Council

Have you had changes in your team? Reach out to [Lucy Scorer](#) to update your membership details.

TCV Loan Rates as at 15 April 2026

Maturity	Fixed Rate (Interest Only)		Fixed Rate (Principal and Interest) *		Floating Rate (margin to BBSW)	
	Quarterly	Semi	Quarterly	Maturity	Quarterly	Semi
1 year	4.8347	4.8620	4.7950	4.8800	0.2557	0.0042
3 year	5.1297	5.1593	5.0400	5.0800	0.5366	0.3116
5 year	5.2878	5.3192	5.1550	5.1900	0.6792	0.4688
7 year	5.5183	5.5526	5.2900	5.3300	0.8245	0.6299
10 year	5.8408	5.8793	5.5150	5.5600	1.0206	0.8477
12 year	6.0289	6.0700	5.6550	5.7050	1.1423	0.9826
15 year	6.2299	6.2739	5.8600	5.9050	1.2751	1.1288
11am (at Call)	4.4150				BBSW	
30 day	4.2950				1 Month	4.0998
60 day	4.4150				3 Month	4.3242
90 day	4.5150				6 Month	4.7246
180 day	4.9150					

TCV Investment rates

TCV note the current TCV 11am/At Call deposit rate is 4.05%. The 11am deposit can be easily utilised for council's daily working capital requirements. Instructions to invest/withdraw funds are requested prior to 3pm for transactions to be processed on the same day. We encourage councils to review the rates currently paid on their at-call accounts with their transactional bank and consider this facility to maximise returns on any surplus cash balances.

Cash	4.0500		4 Month	4.4467
1 Month	4.0898		5 Month	4.5815
2 Month	4.2079		6 Month	4.7146
3 Month	4.3142		1 Year	4.5370

These loan interest rates and margins are indicative only and current as at the time of calculation. The rates and margins indicated include the TCV administration fee of 0.115%, the DTF Guarantee Fee of 0.15% and Execution of 0.05%

*Fixed rate (Principal and Interest) assumes principal balance is reduced to zero over equal instalments until maturity.

Yields have eased over the last fortnight, largely reflecting optimism that the Iran War is approaching a resolution with a ceasefire underway. However, the Strait of Hormuz remains largely closed and fuel prices remain high – even a swift resolution to the conflict will see disruption over the months ahead. At the margin this means the prospect of higher official rates.

Disclaimer

Treasury Corporation of Victoria (TCV) provides indicative borrowing rates information to its clients for general information purposes only, based on facts and data available to TCV at the time of preparation. Rates, market values, yields and outcomes will be subject to variations due to fluctuations and changed market conditions. TCV therefore does not warrant or represent that these rates will be complete, accurate or suitable for use for any Client purposes. The information provided is not to be taken as indicative of the actual trading price at which TCV, or a third party, is or would be prepared to execute a new transaction or to liquidate or unwind and existing transactions.

TCV accepts no responsibility or liability for any direct or indirect loss, damage, cost or expense whatsoever incurred by the Client or any other person because of any error, omission or misrepresentation (whether arising from negligence or otherwise) in the rates information or in connection with or relating in any way whatsoever to the rates information.

The indicative rates information provided by TCV is not, without TCV's prior written consent, to be disclosed to any other person.

FinPro Executive Team 2026

President

- Tony Rocca, Director Corporate, Maroondah CC

Vice Presidents

- Alan Wilson, Financial Controller, Melbourne CC – Professional Development Stream
- Navec Lorkin, CFO, Knox CC – Technical Stream

Treasurer

- Deep Sethi, CFO, Monash CC

Committee Members:

- Allison Southwell, CFO, Cardinia SC
- Belinda Johnson, CFO, Horsham RCC
- Binda Gokhale, Consultant
- Gabby Spiller, Manager Finance, Surf Coast SC
- John Brockway, CFO, City of Yarra
- John Vastianos, CFO, Glen Eira CC
- Liam Routledge, General Manager-Corporate Services, Goldfields SC

- Melissa Baker, CFO, Casey CC
- Nicole Maxwell, Manager Finance, Mitchell SC,
- Rahul Shah, Unit Manager Financial Strategy, Whittlesea CC
- Caroline Reidy, CFO, Frankston CC

FinPro Contact Details

Lucy Scorer, Executive Officer

Email: executiveofficer@finpro.org.au

Phone: 03 9631 2727

Web: www.finpro.org.au

Address: Suite 102, 585 Little Collins Street, Melbourne Vic 3000

Thank you to all our wonderful sponsors at the 2025 Conference for their support.

Platinum Sponsor



Gold Sponsor



Gold Sponsor



Keynote Sponsor



Keynote Sponsor



Dinner Sponsor



Coffee Cart Sponsor



Dinner Sponsor



Headshot Sponsor



Exhibitors

